

VLR SAFETY TAILGATE TALK

August 2016

Subject: **Fire Safety**

Date: _____

Location (garage, mm, etc...):

Instructions:

Safety Coordinators & Supervisors should use this Tailgate Talk as a guide for discussion during their safety meetings. The primary purpose of the safety meetings is to give crews the opportunity to discuss any safety related concerns they may have.

Once the meeting has concluded, the Presenter should have each employee sign this form and include their Employee ID# in the spaces below.

TGT Presenter: _____

Name

Employee

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Every year people are hurt by fires in the workplace. All too often some of these people die. The best way to keep this from happening is to practice active fire prevention. Know what to do—and what not to do—in case of a fire.

What Causes Fires?

Fire happens when the right combination of fuel, oxygen and heat are brought together and combustion is created. Oxygen is normally present in the air. Sources of fuel and heat include:

Fuel	Heat
Paper	Friction
Wood	Electricity
Gasoline & other	Sparks
Flammable material	Open flames

The best way to prevent fires is to make sure all three of these things—fuel, heat and oxygen—do not come together.

Fire Prevention

There are lots of things each of us can do every day to make sure fires don't happen in our workplace:

Housekeeping

- Dispose of waste promptly and properly.
- Keep work areas free of dust, lint, wood chips and other combustible trash. Keep combustible materials away from lights, machinery and electrical sources.

Handling Flammable Substances

- Know what is flammable; check SDSs and labels.
- Store flammables in approved containers.
- Never store combustible materials with oxidizers.
- Clean up spills promptly and properly.
- Dispose of clean-up materials (rags, sand, etc.) promptly and properly.
- Ground containers when transferring flammable materials so you don't generate static electricity.

Continued...

- Use only approved tools and equipment when working around flammable materials.
- Don't use flammables around open flames.
- Use flammables in well-ventilated areas.
- Don't cut on or heat a container that held flammable material until you know it is safe.

Electrical Equipment

- Electrical equipment failures or misuse of electrical equipment is the number one cause of industrial fires.
- Make electrical inspection routine practice.
- Replace cords and wires that are frayed or have worn insulation.
- Don't overload circuits, motors, fuses or outlets.
- Make sure you have good ground connections.

Equipment

- Make sure debris and grease are kept clear of machinery.
- Lubricate bearings and gears so they don't get hot.

Personal

- Smoke only in designated areas.
- Make sure smoking material and matches are put out and placed in proper containers.
- Use space heaters only in approved areas; make sure cords and safety shut-offs are working properly.

It's a good idea to look around your workplace everyday to see if any fire hazards are there. Sometimes, because we see the same thing day after day, we forget it could cause a problem.